



In re the Application of)
David Charles BAULCOMBE et al.)
Serial No. 09/491,549)
Filed: January 26, 2000)
For: GENE SILENCING)

Examiner: Peter Paras, Jr. 300/2900
Group Art Unit: 1632 H/4
Response to Paper No. 13 10-1-01
P. 2.

In response to the Official Action dated June 21, 2001, please reconsider the rejection of claims 1, 5 to 17, 21, 26 to 29, and 32 to 34 of the above-identified patent application in light of the following remarks.

The Official Action dated June 21, 2001, and the references cited therein has been carefully reviewed. In view of the following remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

At page 2 of the Official action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 5 through 11, 21, and 32 through 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner is unclear as to how only the presence of SRMS can demonstrate the occurrence of gene silencing.

Claims 1, 5 through 10, 12 through 17, 21, 26 through 29, and 32 through 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as